

Amesbury Cultural Council (ACC) Meeting
Amesbury Health Center
December 4, 2012, 7:00 pm

Members In Attendance: David Andrews, Leah Hill, Rachel Kohn, Bob LaPlante, Carley Monell, Nancy Platt and Steve Robinson

1. Minutes – November minutes pending. The grant score sheet will be attached to minutes when minutes are approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

Vouchers for 2 grants from last year not yet received; one requires supporting documentation. Grantees have to submit documentation within one year of receiving grant.

Grant vouchers processed:

Newburyport Chamber Music Festival for \$200.00.

Grant vouchers reviewed and submitted for payment:

Bert Snow, Open Air Arts for \$300.00

2012 Studio Tour:

Reimbursement vouchers were processed:

- Carley Monell (banner) for \$58.61.
- Red Mill Graphics (brochures and posters) for \$712.00
- Mary Hichborn (stamps) for \$9.00
- Leah Hill (balloons) for \$34.94

Raffle and Open Studio Tour income for \$358.08 was deposited in the Gift/Donations account.

3. Grants

The grant review, scoring and award process was summarized. The score sheet was reviewed. Grant rejection letters will be sent out first. After 2 weeks, approval letters will be sent out. Annual report must be submitted before the approval letters sent out.

The field trip form was discussed: It's different than the grant form, only 1 page. There is no opportunity for the applicant to describe the field trip. In the future, ACC needs to establish local criteria for field trips and to clarify the existing guide for the regular grants, too.

Ideas: The ACC ought to publicize events that are funded; Revive newsletter; Raise profile of Cultural Council; Improve community relationships; Keep a

calendar of events; Grantees should let ACC know when event is going to happen so that council members could attend.

4. Open Studio

Carley passed around Studio Tour survey which she will send out to participants, which will be discussed at next meeting.

Discussion:

- Were extended hours good? It depended on where artists were. While there was concern about low traffic at Cultural Center, artists in other locations were thrilled with extended hours. AnnMary discussed the possibility of using the Transportation Center instead of the Cultural Center next year.
- Should we invite Amesbury Chamber of Commerce to February meeting to discuss ways to collaborate to improve the Studio Tour? Issues of budget and community connections.
- Need more signs for A-frames.
- Ideas: Trolley; Changing venue; Passport; Hours; "Taste of Amesbury"; Raise the profile; Have artists do discussions or demonstrations; Extend invitation to artists in local communities (Exeter, Merrimac) to show work.

6. Other Business

- Book space at Health Center
- Next meeting is on January 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., unless emergency meeting is required

Come next meeting with fresh ideas.

Carley motioned to adjourn meeting. Bob seconded the motion. Unanimous approval. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Robinson